

File: Fanny\_Bracher\_1862\_07\_19.doc

Typed 24 January 2010 by IB from an undated transcript (unsigned, but in H.M.Wilson's hand). There is a note on the transcript (unsigned, but in HMW's hand) which reads 'Returned original to Murielle Nov 1988'.

Fanny Bracher to Sarah Bracher, 19 July 1862

47 McLeay Street

July 19<sup>th</sup> 1862

My loving Mama

We have had 3 weeks holiday since I wrote last & Aunt & I were very glad when they were over for she had a little alteration made in the school-room which was 3 days work & they made it last the whole of the holidays, they were taking a passage out & they had a little plaster to put w[h]ere it had been so they knocked down nearly the half of the ceiling & whenever we either of us wanted anything we were obliged to be locked up in our own room until they went away to their dinner which was very nasty not to spend our holidays as we should have liked.

We are almost through a very nice mild winter & I have never seen frost or ice or hale [sic] or anything cold since I have been here though Aunt has been here 10 years she has never seen ice or frost that will show you how much warmer it is here than there. It is rather singular that I am 15 today & that Aunt has 15 pupils today it being arranged that the 15<sup>th</sup> should come on Monday insted [sic] of today, that is 9 new ones since I came. We are fully expecting Amy's arrival in August I suppose she is now on the deep. I shall be very glad to see her. I think I am getting on pretty well with my studies — last Thursday week we began dancing I like it very much amongst other grand improvements I have put my head in a bag alias a net just like that pretty one of Lauras only steel heads instead gold every one says it is a great improvement a[s] my face is nearly as fat as Louisa's & quite as rosy but my hands & feet & waist are so much broader I am obliged to wear 5's of boots for the width is 7¾ instead of 7 in. in gloves only for the width. Aunt & Ted begin to think I shall be short & thick but 6 months would not make much difference to height. Aunt is quite as stout as Mrs Miller where except the waist much more so than you I did not forget you dear Mama on your wedding day but only hoped

that the next you wld [be] more comfortable. I think Aunt has said something about my going to England bye & bye. I should very much like to see it but not yet my dear Mama you are quite sure that I never can forget the home of my early child-hood & however kind & thoughtful I may find others I never shall find 1 so truly devoted, kind indulgent & always unselfish as my ever devoted Mother has been and always will be to her children.

I have seen Grandpa's likeness & I don't think it is a bit like him Aunt says it is not, for instead of some one very good looking it represents some one quite the opposite as for Uncle I's both Aunt & Ted declare it is not at all like him in spite of my continual telling them that it is Ted says from that picture he should fancy a cask with a pumpkin on it & Aunt says that it is much more like a monkey than her nephew. She has her Papa's & Uncle Theophilus's also but they are in profile but you must not tell him so I am very glad to hear that you are soon going to have a Church of England a[t] Kangaroo Flat. I should write a little oftener but Aunt has so little time she always intends to write you when I do. I do not remember anything about the books except that Laura had 3 or 4 & Mrs Bennett I think 2 — 1. 'Fern Leaves' & 'Bank of Laith' [or Faith] Remember me very kindly to my Friends & aquantance [sic] give them all I mean my sisters & Brother kisses for me & Love to Papa &  
Believe me  
Your most affect & dutiful Child  
Fanny